

**Department of Veterans  
Affairs**

# Memorandum

Date: April 6, 2021

From: John M. Byrne, DO, Director, Medical and Dental Education, (14AA), VA Central Office, Washington, DC

Subj: Request for Proposals for Infrastructure Support for Health Professions Education (HPE) Enhancement under Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act (VACAA)

To: VA Medical Center Director; Chief of Staff; and Designated Education Officer (DEO)

1. The Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) announces the Request for Proposal (RFP) for VACAA Infrastructure Support for HPE Enhancement at sites participating in the Rural Interprofessional Faculty Development Initiative (RIFDI) Cohort 2.

2. The VACAA legislation provides VHA with an opportunity to expand or enhance health professions training in non-traditional training sites. This RFP is intended to enhance clinical learning programs for sites participating in RIFDI. RIFDI is a two-year curriculum developed by the OAA in collaboration with the Office of Rural Health (ORH) designed to foster professional development for rural, VA-based, clinical educators.

3. VACAA Infrastructure Grant funds are available for up to \$300,000 per facility, to be used in fiscal years (FY) 2021 through FY 2023 in the following funding categories; \$45,000 Medical Funds (160), \$115,000 Administrative (152), and \$140,000 Facility Funds (0162).

4. Eligible sites are listed in the table below.

Altoona VAMC	Fayetteville, NC VAMC	Orlando VAMC
Amarillo VAMC	Fort Meade VAMC	Togus VAMC
Biloxi VAMC	Ft. Wayne VAMC	Tomah VAMC
Boise VAMC	Grand Junction VAMC	White City VAMC
Chillicothe VAMC	Iron Mountain VAMC	White River Jct VAMC
Columbia, MO VAMC	Manchester VAMC	Wichita VAMC
Des Moines VAMC	Muskogee VAMC	
Dublin VAMC	Northampton VAMC	

5. **The application submission deadline is Friday May 21, 2021.** Online application submission instructions are included in the notification email and must be completed by the site's DEO or ACOS/Education (ACOS/E) or their authorized staff.

6. Deanna Callahan, [Deanna.Callahan@va.gov](mailto:Deanna.Callahan@va.gov); Edward Bope, MD, [Edward.Bope@va.gov](mailto:Edward.Bope@va.gov); Anthony Albanese, MD, [Anthony.Albanese@va.gov](mailto:Anthony.Albanese@va.gov) are the designated OAA leads and are available for consultation and guidance.

7. We look forward to your infrastructure support proposal submission and your continued efforts to advance education across the VA.

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Director, Medical and Dental Education (14AA)